

# HIGHER ED MATTERS

Utah System of Higher Education

May 2014



## National College Savings Day is May 29, 2014

*Consider Opening a Utah Educational Savings Plan 529 Account to Celebrate!*

On National 529 Day, Utah residents who open a Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP) 529 account and contribute at least \$20 will receive a \$20 matching contribution from UESP. To qualify, both the account owner and beneficiary must be Utah residents and new to UESP.



### How to Participate in this Promotion:

- The account owner must contribute at least \$20 to a new account on Thursday, May 29, 2014.
- To open a new UESP account online, go to [uesp.org](http://uesp.org), click Open an Account, and follow the prompts.
- To open a new UESP account by mail, fax, overnight delivery, or in person, complete and submit an Account Agreement, available for download at [uesp.org](http://uesp.org) or by phone request at 800.418.2551.
- Be sure to include the promotional code 529DAY14 during the account setup process.

New Account Agreements and contributions submitted by mail, fax, overnight carrier, or in person must be received by UESP on May 29, 2014, by 5:00 p.m. (MT). Accounts opened and contributions made online at [uesp.org](http://uesp.org) must be received on May 29, 2014, by 11:59pm (MT). Documentation must be in good order to process and receive the match.

### What is the Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP)?



The Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP) is a nonprofit 529 college savings plan. 529 plans are tax-advantaged savings vehicles designed to encourage individuals to begin to save for the future costs of higher education. You do not have to be a Utah resident to save with UESP. You can open a UESP account without a minimum contribution.

Another way to help pay for higher education:

## The Regents' Scholarship

The Regents' Scholarship encourages Utah high school students to prepare for college academically and financially by taking a core course of study and saving for college.

The scholarship may be used at any public college or university in the Utah System of Higher Education, as well as at Brigham Young University-Provo, LDS Business College, and Westminster College.

On average, Regents' Scholarship recipients earn a first-year cumulative college GPA that is a full point higher than their peers that are enrolled at USHE institutions.

For more information, and to see the latest program guide, please visit [www.higheredutah.org/regents scholarship](http://www.higheredutah.org/regents scholarship).

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UTAH SYSTEM OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
*Building a Stronger State of Minds*

## Utah Scholars Initiative

*Business and Community Volunteers Help Students Prepare for College*

The Utah Scholars Initiative partners with middle schools and provides business and community leaders the opportunity to discuss why college is important. Volunteers go into eighth grade classrooms to talk to students about why they should think about college, how they can prepare now, and the many ways to pay for their education.

The focus is on helping students understand the academic preparation needed to succeed in post-secondary education and the workforce. To become Utah Scholars, students must take four credits of English, four credits of Math (Math 1, 2, 3 and a progres-

sive course beyond), three and a half credits of social science, three credits of lab-based science (specifically one Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and two credits of the same world language in grades 9–12. Students who complete the Utah Scholars Curriculum are in a position to apply for more scholarships and are less likely to need remediation when they enroll in college. The Utah Scholars Initiative is a sister program to the Regents' Scholarship (*see opposite for more info*).

When students sign up on the website, they are pledging their desire to graduate from high school ready for college.

They also start receiving monthly email messages targeted to their grade about what they can be doing now get ready for college. In addition, the monthly newsletter highlights a scholarship each month, emphasizing that students don't need to wait until senior year to start preparing for college—including

applying for scholarships.



### DID YOU KNOW...

...you can volunteer for Utah Scholars? Our volunteers are community heroes. They make a difference in the lives of students in Utah every day by introducing them to the benefits of higher education. For more information, visit [www.utahscholars.org](http://www.utahscholars.org).

Registration open for:

### Supporting the Journey

The USHE Conference for  
Secondary School Administrators and Counselors  
**Keynote Speaker: Alice Anne Bailey**



Friday, September 12, 2014  
Thanksgiving Point, Show Barn  
Lehi, Utah

For more info & to register online:  
<http://www.stepuputah.com>.